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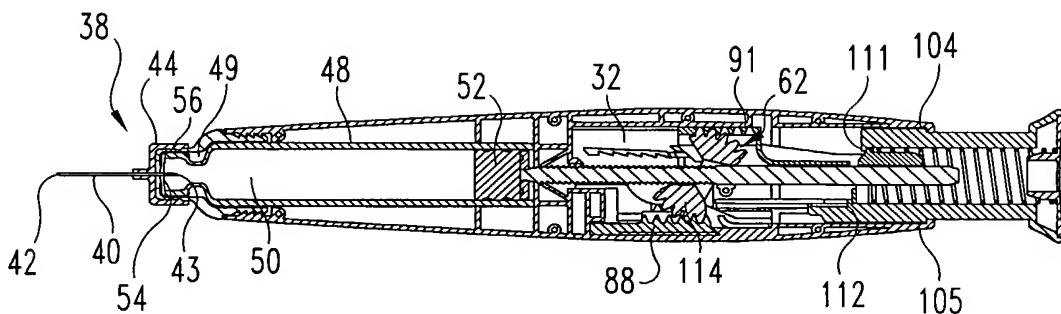
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(54) Title: MEDICATION DISPENSING APPARATUS WITH GEAR SET HAVING DRIVE MEMBER ACCOMMODATING OPENING



(57) Abstract: A medication dispensing apparatus having a gear set (62) to provide a mechanical advantage to the plunging of the apparatus plunger (64). The gear set has a first pinion (114) in meshed engagement with a rack (91) of the plunger, and a second pinion (126) in meshed engagement with a rack (80) of a drive member (68) of the apparatus. The gear set operatively interconnects the plunger and the drive member such that after the plunger is moved relative to the housing (30, 31) in a proximal direction to prepare the apparatus for injection, the plunger, when distally moved, causes the drive member to advance in a distal direction to force medication through an outlet, typically provided with an injection needle (40), at the distal end (22) of the apparatus. An opening (130) through one of the pinions accommodates the drive member to allow for a compact apparatus.

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